

appropriate or not. The bird, when its duty is accomplished, is regaled with a grain of rice, and hops back into its cage. Before proceeding to specify the remedies to the patient, the doctor feels his client's pulse, and whilst noting its peculiarities discourses learnedly on the infirmities from which the sick man's ancestors suffered, which he pretends are revealed by the pulsation. The advice and remedies having been given the consultation is paid for at the rate of ten or a dozen "cash." If the doctor succeeds in making a name for himself in this fashion, which in China is not difficult, he stops his street practice and establishes himself in a house, whereupon the fees increase in amount until, if he be very fortunate, he may even receive one or two dollars for each, or about 1600 to 2000 cash. In China a doctor's fame is measured not by his numerous *clients*, or by his learning, but by the number of sick patients who have died under his treatment; and whenever a patient dies in his hands the authorities place a small lantern by night over the doctor's door, so that the public may know of his want of success. To lend an air of wisdom and gravity to their appearance, Chinese doctors wear large spectacles with gold or silver mounts, and with smoked glasses; they clothe themselves with brown or yellow silk garments, and for headgear adopt a sort of black biretta, shaped like a Grecian helmet, and topped with a red ball the size of a walnut.

They wear the Chinese shoe, more or less artistically worked according to lucrativeness of their practice. A long pig-tail is by them regarded as a sign of distinction and well-being, so that they all have the adornment carefully plaited and dressed; but if this, by reason of its scantiness, does not lend the requisite tone to their presence, they increase its length artificially until it meets with their approval. During the time the medical apprentice remains in the monastery, his tansured masters, the monks, feed him upon boiled rice, vegetables, and tea, so that by simplicity of diet he may become impressed with the small amount of food really necessary to bodily well-being. By this means he is so imbued with the monkish ideas concerning medicine that on his setting up in practice he tells his clients that the origin of all suffering are the good or bad spirits, cold, heat, hunger, or abundance. Medical schools on the European system have been established by the English Protestant missionaries in various parts of the Chinese Empire, but their halls are nearly deserted, for the Chinese say that European doctors' science consists simply in the use of the knife—an instrument for which the Chinese have an ineradicable horror.—*Pharmaceutical Journal*.

SULFINIDUM ABSOLUTUM.—Pure, 100 per cent. or absolute saccharin, or saccharin freed from *para* acids.

Hints for Successful Window Dressing.

By "MARITIME."

If possible, fill window with one preparation only. Let it express *one idea*, whether it be variety of styles or prices of a certain article or quantity kept in stock. If tooth brushes be the idea, let your window express one or other or both of the two ideas, either that you have tooth brushes of all values, or a large stock of one good-value brush which you thought such good value that you bought a large lot of these brushes. If the idea be toilet articles, see that every requisite or luxury for the toilet is displayed; but if it be one toilet article only, such as sponges, pile up the window with sponges, and if you can make the window attractive by curious sponges do so. If you are running advertisements in the daily papers of your town see that they attract attention to your window. If your window is filled with whisks let the ad. tell the advantages of your stock of whisks over every other merchant's stock; and if it be babies' requisites that pile your window, herald forth the every need of infants in the daily newspapers.

Remember the saying, "Everything in its season." When flies come fill up the window with fly paper, sticky fly paper, fly traps, insect powder, and insect guns. When bathing time has come let it be pocket combs, bathing caps and hoods, bath towels, bath gloves, bath brushes, and floating soap. When Oddfellows' day is at hand make use of the three links for window dressing. On the 24th of May reproduce in arrangement of goods, or display as a background, the good old lady of England, and on Christmas day let Santa Claus or some suggestion of the season be conspicuous in your window. Let no anniversary or event capable of lending color to your window decoration pass without calling in its aid to the claims of your window.

An advertisement of spring requisites chills one in midsummer, so does a display of sarsaparillas in August, of fly papers in January, or of root beer in April. Be timely, neither anticipating nor lagging behind hand.

Let your window be artistic and original. Study contrast and harmony of color, and arrange different colored articles in sympathy with rules of harmony and contrast. Adopt and copy every new idea so long as it was not originated by your competitor, for in this case you declare openly, "He leads, I follow."

Above all, change your window dressing frequently. Old ads. are useless, so are old window dressings: finally, as "cleanliness is next to godliness," see that your window glass and everything it encloses is as spotless as the fairest linen cloth or the reputation you admire and work for.

A New Aperient Water.

By GRIEHRATH PROFESSOR OSCAR LIEBERMANN, M.D.

It has oftentimes been pointed out—and that, too, with reference to mineral

waters—that the first condition of therapeutic efficacy is the constancy of the remedy employed. In the case of natural mineral waters this point is of the greatest importance. The aperient waters offer the one sole exception in regard to this constancy among our natural mineral springs. These are formed by impregnation of the natural waters which supply the mineral constituents. From this, as observation teaches us, there arises an extraordinary inconstancy of the chemical constituents. The aperient waters, therefore, form an exception to the mineral springs proper. For medical purposes it is absolutely necessary, in prescribing this water, to know the dose. It has happened, not infrequently, that a wineglassful of aperient water has been shown to contain the same amount of mineral constituents as the practitioner would, from the analysis, expect to be present in a tumblerful. It is obvious, therefore, that neither the practitioner nor the patient can form a correct opinion in this manner; and under these circumstances it may even happen that an unexpectedly great degree of concentration may do harm by useless irritation of the intestines. There is a further disadvantage arising from changes in mineral constituents, so that, instead of the sulphates which the water should contain, chlorides are present in an injurious amount. The opinion has very often been expressed that the bottling of such waters should be under scientific control, so that their proper constitution should be ensured exactly in the same way as that of other medicines is regulated by the Pharmacopœia. It is, therefore, a matter for high satisfaction that the aperient water, "Apenta," from the Uj Hunyadi springs in Ofen, has been placed under state control. The Royal Hungarian Chemical State Institute (Ministry of Agriculture) has undertaken this charge, and, therefore, it is now possible to obtain a water which is free from injurious extraneous waters infected with organic substances. The analysis has been published by Professor Liebermann, director of the said Institute. The proportion of sulphate of soda to sulphate of magnesia is 15.432 to 24.4968 in the litre, so that this water is to be classed with the best aperient waters, and may be pronounced one of the strongest. Owing to the constancy of the Apenta water, ensured by the state guarantee, that confidence in aperient waters which had been lost will be revived through this important therapeutic agent. The constancy of the Apenta water makes the use of it indicated, not only as an occasional purgative, but in systematic courses of treatment. It is particularly recommended for the regulation of tissue change in the most diverse diseases, in obesity, chronic constipation, portal obstruction, hæmorrhoids. Whether the lithia contained in this water is of any therapeutic importance is at present doubtful, but its presence is a distinctive feature in the analysis.—*Therapeutische Monatshefte*.